Ministear for Housing Ministear airson Taigheadas Paul McLennan MSP/BPA



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Joyce Orr j.orr@pineview.org.uk

Our Reference: 202500452264 Your Reference: Pineview HA Rent Increase Notification Concern Follow Up

5 March 2025

Dear Joyce Orr,

I refer to your further correspondence of 7 February 2025, in relation to the serving of rent increase notifications.

Your letter of 7 February refers to a number of points which have been addressed in our previous correspondence, dating from August 2023. As previously explained, detailed consideration has been given to whether any amendment to the existing Bill provisions is required to allow for delivery by standard post. The Bill's provisions expand the current range of delivery methods adequately, offering increased choice for landlords and tenants, whilst allowing for notices to be served appropriately with the notice period preserved. The Scottish Government is therefore not considering any amendments to the provisions.

Whilst I appreciate your points that some tenants prefer not to receive notices via electronic transmission, or may not have access to devices or to an email account, the option for service via electronic transmission that has been agreed in advance reflects the broader societal context and modern ways of working, with many institutions and individuals preferring, or working towards, use of paperless communication. The provisions in the Bill reflect this, whilst ensuring that options for service via hard copy are retained in order to maximise choice for tenants and landlords.

The previous point made in relation to RSLs' hand delivering notices was based on anecdotal evidence. Neither the Scottish Government nor the Scottish Housing Regulator (SHR) gather data on the methods of delivery social landlords use.

The current delivery requirements and options for serving rent notices are set out in the 2001 Act and

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based on their own legal advice, it is a matter for individual landlords to determine that rent increase notifications meet the legal requirements for service.

I hope this information is of use.

Yours sincerely

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PAUL McLENNAN

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